

Title

The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Church
of Wide Fellowship - Southern Pines, N.C.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1956.
Southern Convention of Congregational Christian Churches.

"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"



The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary
of
The Church of Wide Fellowship
SOUTHERN PINES, NORTH CAROLINA
Moore County

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

On April 5, 1895, a band of devoted Christian residents from New England met in Southern Pines to discuss the formation of a Congregational Church. From the results of that meeting quickly evolved the formation of the First Congregational Church of Southern Pines, later incorporated under the laws of North Carolina for a period of 30 years. The Articles of Faith, the Covenant and rules and declarations were carefully considered and the organization completed on the part of the people by the election of officers on April 24, 1895. On April 28, 1895, the Church, with 38 charter members, was duly recognized by a Council of Congregational Ministers in public exercises in the Episcopal Church. Before a church was built the congregation held services in the Central House and the Prospect House, hotels of the town at that time.

In 1897, Mr. H. H. Nutting, architect, was hired to draw plans for the First Congregational Church. The corner stone was laid July 5, 1897, and the building finished in March, 1898. The sermon and dedication prayer was given by Rev. E. B. Webb, D.D. of Boston, Mass. The church, built at a cost of \$2,420, served all church purposes for 30 years until it was replaced in 1927. It then became parish house, Sunday School building and Women's Parlor.

A special meeting was called to vote on a new sanctuary on May 7, 1924. In 1925 plans submitted by Benton & Benton, architects, were approved. The corner stone was laid in 1927 and the building finished in 1928 at a cost of \$57,300.

In 1927 the church was incorporated under the name of Church of Wide Fellowship (Congregational), Inc. This still remains the Church's legal name. In 1931 the Congregational denomination merged with the Christian Church denomination to form the Congregational Christian denomination. At that time this church became a member of the Southern Convention with offices at Elon College, N. C.

On February 13, 1950, the old church burned. W. H. Deitrick, architect, drew plans for a new educational building in 1951. The building was started in 1952 and completed two years later in 1954.

In 1961 the Congregational Christian and the Evangelical and Reformed denominations merged to form the United Church of Christ. The local Church then adopted as its name: United Church of Christ (Church of Wide Fellowship). In 1970 the Church adopted the name The Church of Wide Fellowship (Congregational Christian, United Church of Christ).

At present there are 346 members on the church roll. Mrs. Esther Richardson has the distinction of holding the longest term of membership in the Church. She became a member in January, 1899.

Only two of our former pastors are still living and we are honored to have both of them participating in our Anniversary celebration. Dr. Voigt Taylor, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, Sumter, South Carolina, is our guest preacher on April 19, and Rev. Carl Wallace, pastor of First United Church of Christ, Hampton, Virginia, is our guest preacher on April 26.

We are proud of our seventy-five years of Christian fellowship and service in Southern Pines and the Sandhills area and we pray that with God's blessing we may continue to be "his servants in the service of men" for many, many years to come.

THE ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Sunday, April 19, 1970

Eleven O'Clock

THE ORGAN PRELUDE—"Toccata from Fifth Symphony" Widor

THE CHIMES—

THE CALL TO WORSHIP—

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN—"Holy, Holy, Holy" No. 1

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION—

*THE CONFESSION OF OUR SIN—(In Unison)

Almighty God, merciful Father: I, a poor sinner, acknowledge and confess my manifold sins, which I from time to time have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty. I do earnestly repent, and am heartily sorry for these my misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto me. I have no other comfort or hope than thy grace, which aboundeth above my guilt, and the precious merits of my Lord Jesus Christ. Longing after this grace, I say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy child. Grant unto me pardon and peace, and strength to lead a new and righteous life, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, through the same Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON—

*THE LORD'S PRAYER—

THE ANTHEM—"Fanfare and Alleluias" Young

GREETINGS FROM THE PASTOR The Rev. John E. Harrison

GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR OF SOUTHERN PINES—

The Honorable Earl Hubbard

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS—Psalm 36:5-9, Hebrews 12:1-6

Mr. Stanley Austin, Vice-Chairman, Board of Deacons

*THE HYMN OF WORSHIP—"Jesus Calls Us" No. 152

THE PASTORAL PRAYER—

THE OFFERTORY—"Agincourt Hymn" Dunstable

*THE DOXOLOGY AND OFFERING PRAYER—

THE SOLO Mr. Wesley Stoltz

THE SERMON—"Looking Unto Jesus and His Cross" Dr. Voigt Taylor

*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN—"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" No. 177

*THE BENEDICTION—

*THE ORGAN POSTLUDE—"The Heavens Declare" Marcello

*Congregation will please stand.

THE ANNIVERSARY COMMUNION

Sunday, April 26, 1970

Eleven O'Clock

THE ORGAN PRELUDE—"Prelude on Ton-y-botel" Purvis

THE CHIMES—

THE CALL TO WORSHIP—

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN—"The Church's One Foundation" No. 391

*THE CALL TO CONFESSION—

*THE CONFESSION OF OUR SIN—(In Unison)

Gracious God, Creator and Father, we come before you a rebellious people.
We have denied your intentions for us; we have preferred our way to
Christ's way; we have disobeyed your commandments; and we have wor-
shipped ourselves and the things we have made. Forgive us, restore in us
the knowledge of who we are, and make us alive to serve you in faith,
obedience, and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON—

*THE LORD'S PRAYER—

THE ANTHEM

Selected

GREETINGS FROM THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST—

Dr. James H. Lightbourne

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS—Psalm 118:1-8, Revelation 21:1-7

Mrs. Vera Parker, Chairman, Board of Trustees

THE PASTORAL PRAYER—

THE OFFERTORY—"Pastorale"

Purvis

*THE DOXOLOGY AND OFFERING PRAYER—

THE SOLO

Mr. Roger Gibbs

THE SERMON—"The End of A World Is Near" The Rev. Carl Wallace

*THE COMMUNION HYMN—"Faith of Our Fathers" No. 220

HOLY COMMUNION—

(Please hold the Elements until all have been served.)

*THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING—

*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN—"Blest Be The Tie That Binds" No. 37

*THE BENEDICTION—

*THE ORGAN POSTLUDE—"Postlude on Austria" Purvis

*Congregation will please stand.

CHURCH NOTES

In the name of Christ, we welcome all of you to our celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of The Church of Wide Fellowship. We invite you to share not only in the service of worship and communion but also in the other events of the celebration.

Sunday, April 19 — The Anniversary Service,

Historical Museum and Fellowship Hour,
Immediately following morning worship.

3:00—The Burlington Rotary Boys' Choir.

Daily 3:00 - 5:00—Historical Museum

7:30 - 9:00—Tuesday and Thursday evenings

Sunday, April 26—The Anniversary Communion

Historical Museum and Fellowship Hour,
Immediately following morning worship.

Altar Flowers—April 19 - Given by Mrs. Flora Schmelzer in memory of loved ones.

April 26 - Given by Rev. and Mrs. John E. Harrison in honor of
the members of The Church of Wide Fellowship.

PARTICIPATING IN THESE SERVICES

The Honorable Earl Hubbard, Mayor of Southern Pines

Stanley Austin, Vice-Chairman, Board of Deacons

Wesley Stoltz, Sanford, N. C.

Dr. Voigt Taylor, Pastor, Trinity Methodist Church, Sumter, S. C.

Dr. James H. Lightbourne, Conference Minister, The Southern Conference of the
United Church of Christ

Mrs. Vera Parker, Chairman, Board of Trustees

Roger Gibbs, Greensboro, N. C.

The Reverend Carl Wallace, Pastor, First United Church of Christ, Hampton, Va.

The Reverend John E. Harrison, Pastor, The Church of Wide Fellowship

The Sandhills Community College Madrigal Singers

The Church Choir

The Worshipping Congregation

THE ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

General Chairmen	Dwight Hoskins & D. A. Blue, Jr.
Publicity and Publications	Charles Weatherspoon
Museum	Mrs. Georganne Austin
Music	Mrs. Eleanor Poe
Reception	Mrs. Mary Tollaksen
Program	E. J. Austin

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